

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to acknowledge SUNY's leadership, the Office of International Programs, SUNY and Turkish partnership institutions, and all those who have worked to ensure that New York State's system of higher education provides the international components that are critical to higher education, our nation's competitiveness, and our image abroad. Furthermore, I am deeply honored to represent two of SUNY's host institutions, SUNY Binghamton and my alma mater, SUNY New Paltz. Each of these universities' contributions in education and efforts at globalizing their campuses benefit their communities in many broad and profound ways and it is my pleasure to recognize them during International Education Week 2007.

RECOGNIZING LAMAR UNIVERSITY'S DISHMAN DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, Florence Nightingale, the pioneer of modern nursing, once stated that "Unless we are making progress in our nursing every year, every month, every week, take my word for it we are going back." Lamar University's JoAnne Gay Dishman Department of Nursing has taken this philosophy and ran with it. Their continued excellence has turned the nursing program into one of the most successful in the country.

Nursing education began at Lamar University in 1974. Since then, it has become the second most popular in the university, trailing only General Studies. From 2001 through 2005, the program saw a 30 percent increase in the number of students admitted to the program. Over the same period, the number of pre-nursing majors increased by 195 percent. The popularity stems from the success of both the program and the students. The faculty is staffed by a number of experts with many years of experience. Recently Department Chair Eileen Curl was elected president of the Texas Association of Deans and Directors of Professional Nursing Programs. May 2007 graduates of the Department's associate of applied science program achieved a 100 percent passing rate on the National Council Licensing Examination for Registered Nurses. The national passing rate is 87 percent. Success in the classroom has lead to success after graduation. The University states that 98 percent of senior nursing students have job offers before graduation, and a full 100 percent are employed within six months after graduation. The knowledge learned in the classroom benefits all Southeast Texans, as the University estimates that between 60 to 80 percent of Lamar's graduating classes are employed in local health care agencies. Southeast Texans can feel safe, knowing that they have qualified, competent, and professional nurses to assist them.

Lamar University's Dishman Department of Nursing had humble beginnings but quickly grew to become one of the most popular and distinguished majors. The faculty provides quality education relevant to today's ever-changing world. The students strive to be the best and showcase their values, work ethic

and integrity. With an enrollment that grows by the year, the Dishman Department of Nursing will be turning out prominent medical professionals for years to come.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLORADO PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER THOMAS C. MCGUIRE

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Thomas C. McGuire, an associate professor of English and Fine Arts at the United States Air Force Academy, who has been named the Colorado winner of the 2007 U.S. Professors of the Year Award. Since 1981, this program has saluted outstanding undergraduate instructors throughout the country.

This award is recognized as one of the most prestigious honors bestowed upon a professor. To be nominated for this award requires dedication to the art of education and excellence in every aspect of the profession. Mr. McGuire is personally committed to each student and has helped to shape the leaders of tomorrow's Air Force. We are all proud of his accomplishment.

I commend Mr. McGuire for his leadership and dedication. Mr. McGuire's passion has no doubt inspired an untold number of students. It is excellent professors like Mr. McGuire that have enabled the United States Air Force Academy to become one of the very best institutions of higher learning in the nation. I wish today to congratulate Mr. McGuire and the Academy on this tremendous honor.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING HAZEL FARMER ON HER 106TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Ms. Farmer has demonstrated values of hard work and service throughout her life, always maintaining a positive outlook; and

Whereas, Ms. Farmer loves helping people through volunteering and taking care of them; and

Whereas, Ms. Farmer has dedicated her life to teaching our youth; and

Whereas, Ms. Farmer's character has been praised by the staff at Walnut Hills Retirement Community, as "a sweetheart and a joy to be around;" now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I wish Hazel Farmer a happy and healthy 106th birthday. We recognize the tremendous impact she has had in her community and in the lives of all those people she has touched.

HONORING THE FOSTERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the members of the Fosterville Volunteer Fire Department for their selfless dedication and bravery in protecting our families, day and night.

The Fosterville Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1989 with 10 firefighters and an old handed-down U.S. Army truck. The department has 14 volunteers on its roster and has already responded to over 30 calls in 2007.

Without volunteer fire halls, like Fosterville, many places in the Sixth District would lack effective fire protection. In the state of Tennessee, over 70 percent of fire service is provided by volunteers. Among these volunteers, almost 75 percent work other daily jobs.

Ensuring our families' safety is not without risk. Sadly, an average of two firefighters die each year in Tennessee in the line of duty. In 2005, the Tennessee Fire Services and Code Academy dedicated a memorial on their main campus in Bell Buckle to honor those Tennessee firefighters who have died in the line of duty.

For their willingness to serve, the following members of the Fosterville Volunteer Fire Department deserve recognition: Chief Bob DeCarlo, Deputy Chief Billy Wallace, Capt. Chuck Lloyd, Lt. Andy Kimbrell, Lt. Issac Keith, Administrative Firefighter Emily Bradley, Training Officer Kevin Kimberlin, Chaplin and Firefighter Clark Sneed, J.D. Iddings, James Bass, Jason Zimmerman, Mark Bonifant and Woman Auxiliaries Emily Bradley, Mary Bass, Candice Lloyd and Jennifer Chapman; Explorer Junior Firefighters: Andrew Redd, Tiffany Kimberlin and Brandi Kimbrell.

WAITING ON JUSTICE TO BE SERVED

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, thirteen years ago in Humble, Texas, 33-year-old Farah Fratta was murdered by a hit man, allegedly hired by her own husband, Robert Fratta. In 1994 Robert Fratta was sentenced to death row for his part in this murder-for-hire plan. Since their daughter's murder, Farah's parents, Lex and Betty Baquer have raised Farah's children. The Baquers recently learned that Robert Fratta was granted a new trial.

This second chance frustrates and shocks the Baquers. In the second district of Texas, the community of Humble is troubled to learn that the Baquers and their grandchildren will have to relive another trial. The murder of a loved one is an exceptionally difficult experience yet too often, the victim's families are left alone to fight the criminal justice system. The Baquers have found support and strength through God and in their grandchildren. I want the Baquers to know they are not alone in